

Short Term:

1. Concurrent jurisdiction. I'm not sure concurrent jurisdiction advances any consistency or would make water distribution/administration any more consistent than having the district courts maintain authority. I think the larger issue is providing the district court with the necessary resources, knowledge and understanding to administer the water court decrees. I think the main issue which needs clarification is just when does a water court decree become enforceable and to what extent. The statutes are not clear to me on when the decree itself is enforceable and when does the district court and water users know the water court decree is being administered.
2. Records Coordination. We still need accurate and up to date records being available. The system we have still has a huge time delay on providing up to date tabulations and information.
3. Education and Collaboration. No comment.

Long Term:

1. Time Gap. This issue should be addressed. Having 1973 decrees in 2015 and beyond does us little good. I also think it is the biggest problem with the adjudication in terms of sufficiency and accuracy. We need a process to amend decrees to be updated to reflect actual water use under the rights which are being adjudicated.
2. Administrative appeals to Water Court. I think how No. 1 is addressed may make this topic moot.
3. Modernizing Water Commissioner/Distribution. The water commissioner statutes do need to be updated. Related to this is to update/clarify when and how the water court decrees become enforceable/administrable.

Those are my comments. Thanks for compiling. JEB

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